

INDEX TO ARTICLES APPEARING IN American Roofer & Siding Contractor January through December, 1952

SUBJECT	MONTH	PAGE
ROOFING APPLICATION AND PRACTICE		
1952: The Shingle Outlook	January	11
A Roofing Expert's Wisdom: I. Asphalt Shingles & Roofs	January	12
Promenade Tile Deck Application	January	20
A Roofing Expert's Wisdom: II. Built-Up Roofs: Hot Application	February	18
First 100: Mechanized Built-Up Roof Applied	March	18
A Roofing Expert's Wisdom, III. Built-Up Roofs: Cold Application	March	26
Roof Maintenance Efficiency Essential	April	11
Roofing Expert's Wisdom, IV. Built-Up Roofs: Flashings	April	20
A Roofing Expert's Wisdom, V. Insulation Under Built-Up Roofs	May	14
Assembly-Line Methods Resulted In Swift Completion of Built-Up Job	June	10
How to Apply Interlock Shingles	June	14
Plastic Skylights Save Huge Glazing Bills	July	14
Cold Cement Process Used On Big Roof Job In West	July	20
How to Prevent Pitch Drip	August	14
What To Do About Buckled Asphalt Shingles	September	22
Cold Weather Roof Leaks: Their Cause and Prevention	October	16
New Roads In Built-Up Roofing: I—Vapor Barriers	December	12
SIDING APPLICATION AND PRACTICE		
1952: Insulating Siding Outlook	January	14
Wider Use of Insulating Siding Can Cut Annual Lumber Waste	April	17
Overlap Shingle Types Gain In Siding Sales	June	9
Powered Handling Methods Speed Siding Deliveries	July	19
FHA Accepts Insulating Siding Over Fiber Or Gypsum On New Homes	November	19
Plastic Siding Is Now On The Market	November	20
SELLING AND ADVERTISING		
1952: The Shingle Outlook	January	11
Advertising On A "Shoestring"	January	16
Sign 'Em For Fall Repairs Now	March	23
Apprenticing Junior To Senior Salesmen Pays Off	April	13
What Makes Salesmen Tick?	April	18
101 Ways To Cold Canvass For Hot Prospects, I. That First Five Minutes	May	13
"Consider The Customer's Viewpoint" Is Key To Sales	May	16
Overlap Shingle Types Gain In Siding Sales	June	9
101 Ways To Cold Canvass, Keep the Right Mental Attitude	June	21
101 Ways To Cold Canvass, III. Sincerity Pays—And So Does Flattery	July	18
Roofing Experts Say Repair Boom On Its Way	August	11
"Gimmick" Tie-In With Local Ads Draws Roofing Business	August	16
Bad Weather Can Mean Good Business If You Take Advantage of It	September	26
Follow These Six Tips To Sell More Asbestos Siding	September	28
"Fire-resistance" Line Sells Roofing This Month	October	13
Color! It Has Caught Hold and Is Selling Roofs	October	18
Turn A Small Job Into A Big One By Suggesting Conversions and Extensions	October	20

SUBJECT	MONTH	PAGE
Want to Sell The Farmer? Then Use This Seasonal Calendar	November	16
Photo Blow-Ups Make Business Getting Window Displays	November	18
NOW Is The Time To Sell The Small Town Home Owner	November	22
Don't Merely Get Your Foot In The Door—Make Them Open It Wide!	December	14
CONTRACTORS, U. S. A.: YOUR COMPETITORS TALK		
Candid "Snaps" Make New Friends For Your Business	February	13
His Camera Records Damage—P.S. Roofer Gets Job	March	31
Apprenticing Junior To Senior Salesmen Pays Off	April	13
"Consider The Customer's Viewpoint" Is Key To Sales	May	16
Ringing Bells Time After Time Pays Off For Contractor	June	20
Roofing Is DIFFERENT In Auckland, New Zealand	July	17
This Roofer Asks for Complaints	August	13
Siding Is This Firm's Bread-And-Butter	September	19
"The Customer Knows EXACTLY What He's Getting," When This Firm Works	September	21
"Know Your License Plates" Promotion Brings Huge Returns to Indiana Roofer	October	15
Rugged Dependability Of Contractor In Maine Brings Steady Business	November	21
"Sell The Prospect What He Really Needs..."	December	15
EDITORIALS, REPORTS, REGULATIONS		
1952: The Contractor's Outlook: "Material Supply To Be Good"	February	16
Convention Program	March	20
Location of Booths and Exhibitors	March	21
"Diversification" Keynotes 1952 NERSICA Convention	May	9
Pictures of Booths at NERSICA Convention	May	10-12
Construction Controls Greatly Eased In Iowa	May	15
NERSICA, States Far & Middle Western Conventions For '52-'53	July	29
Georgia Roofing Convention	August	23
First NERSICA Western Show, 'Frisco, Oct. 27-29	October	21
Conference Opens New Era For West	December	10
FHA Official Predicts Profitable Future For Home Repair	December	11
Expanded Built-Up Roof Forum To Include Insulation, NERSICA	December	11
MANAGEMENT		
ABC's On Price Control For The Roofer & Siding Contractor	February	11
Examples of Pricing Under CPR 93	February	12
AR & SC Survey Shows Healthy Diversification By Contractors	February	14
NERSICA Convention To Feature Forum On Built-Up Roofing	February	17
Apprentice Mechanics Needed, I	March	17
Built-Up Roofing and Credit Forums Set For Convention	March	20
Apprentice Mechanics Needed (Cont.)	April	15
Law Favors Roofers When Customer Refuses To Pay on "Faulty" Jobs	April	16
Apprentice Mechanics Needed (Conclusion)	May	22
Industry Must Police Itself Or It May Lose Title I Rights	July	13

INDEX TO ARTICLES APPEARING IN American Roofer & Siding Contractor January through December, 1952

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Roof Maintenance Efficiency Essential	April	11
Roofing Expert's Wisdom, IV. Built-Up Roofs: Flashings	April	20
A Roofing Expert's Wisdom, V. Insulation Under Built-Up Roofs	May	14
Assembly-Line Methods Resulted In Swift Completion of Built-Up Job	June	10
How to Apply Interlock Shingles	June	14
Plastic Skylights Save Huge Glazing Bills	July	14
Cold Cement Process Used On Big Roof Job In West	July	20
How to Prevent Pitch Drip	August	14
What To Do About Buckled Asphalt Shingles	September	22
Cold Weather Roof Leaks: Their Cause and Prevention	October	16
New Roads In Built-Up Roofing: I—Vapor Barriers	December	12
SIDING APPLICATION AND PRACTICE		
1952: Insulating Siding Outlook	January	14
Wider Use of Insulating Siding Can Cut Annual Lumber Waste	April	17
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SELLING AND ADVERTISING		
1952: The Shingle Outlook	January	11
Advertising On A "Shoestring"	January	16
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Candid "Snaps" Make New Friends For Your Business	February	13
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"Sell The Prospect What He Really Needs..."	December	15
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MANAGEMENT		
ABC's On Price Control For The Roofer & Siding Contractor	February	11
Examples of Pricing Under CPR 93	February	12
AR & SC Survey Shows Healthy Diversification By Contractors	February	14
NERSICA Convention To Feature Forum On Built-Up Roofing	February	17
Apprentice Mechanics Needed, I	March	17
Built-Up Roofing and Credit Forums Set For Convention	March	20
Apprentice Mechanics Needed (Cont.)	April	15
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Apprentice Mechanics Needed (Conclusion)	May	22
Industry Must Police Itself Or It May Lose Title I Rights	July	13

Higher Standards Essential

(Continued from Page 9)

a bad impression in the public's mind. This very unfair competition is also forcing some of the otherwise good and reliable firms to sometimes use unscrupulous tactics, such as short-changing of materials and skimping on workmanship in order to survive in business. It is also constantly hindering reliable firms in trying to raise the standards of the industry, as, like all businesses, they must make a profit or go out of business.

Among the things I feel can be done to eliminate such unfair competition and raise the standards of our industry would be ordinances adopted through the building departments of the various municipalities. Such ordinances though, must have teeth in order to accomplish their purposes, so that violators would be prosecuted and fined. Some of the important provisions to be desired in such ordinances are as follows:

1. A uniform Code covering quantities and types of minimum materials for various roofs, with uniform and

standard methods of application.

2. The building department to re-



Presidents of various associations at the Georgia meeting gathered in convivial harmony: Left to right, Howard Carpenter, Florida; W. M. Jones, Sr., Georgia; Joe H. Piper, South Carolina.

quire the roofing firm to take out permits for work on all types of new construction as well as reroofing. With permits issued only to licensed roofing

contractors, who hold occupational licenses and are in good standing in that municipality.

3. To become a licensed roofing contractor, one should be required to take a rigid examination in the application of all types of roofing, as well as proper materials to be used; reading blue prints and estimating costs; answering various administrative questions on Social Security Taxes, Sales Taxes, Insurance, and so forth, also as to how and to whom such items are to be paid, and by all means be required to show financial responsibility, and that proper and adequate insurance coverage is carried, all these before issuance of a license.

4. It should be required that the building inspector be notified by the roofing contractor when taking out the permit, as to when the job will be commenced so that the building inspector can inspect the materials, and the application at various stages.

Such ordinances could create uniformity throughout the roofing industry and could be worked out by our State Associations and passed on to

(Continued on Page 24)

ANNUAL INDEX (Continued)

SUBJECT	MONTH	PAGE
Roofers Is Legally At Fault If Non-Employees Are Hurt On Scaffolding He Provides	July	16
6 Types of Insurance Every Contractor Should Carry	August	19
Free Lance Roofing Deals Hurt Industry & Homeowners	September ..	17
If A Child Is Hurt By Your Tar Kettle Or Truck WHO Must Pay Damages?	September ..	20
Income Tax Fraud Charges Tough For Small Roofer to Fight: How To Avoid Them	October	19
File In Colors Analyzes Roofing Prospects Instantly	November ..	15
Higher Standards Essential, Contractor Tells Roofers	December ..	9
TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT		
Tools, Tips On Care, II	January	17
Take Care of Your Tools! (Conclusion)	June	12

SUBJECT	MONTH	PAGE
WATERPROOFING AND INSULATION		
Plastic Skylights Save Huge Glazing Bills	July	14
Cold Weather Roof Leaks: Their Cause and Prevention	October	16
SAFETY		
Holding Galvanized Nails In Mouth Can Lead to Lead Poisoning	June	18
WHAT'S NEW		
Page	Page	Page
January 22	May 17	September .. 30
February 21	June 19	October 26
March 30	July 21	November 24
April 25	August 18	December 20
KINKS & SHORTCUTS		
Page	Page	Page
January 29	May 19	September .. 35
February 25	June 30	October 41
March 35	July 41	November 33
April 30	August 29	December 32

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